

Mills Volunteer Fire Department

MILLS, WYOMING

MAR 22 1993

FCC MAIL ROOM

March 22, 1993

Ms. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RE: PR Docket No. 92-235

Dear Ms. Searcy:

The personnel of the Mills Volunteer Fire Department would like to go on record as being strongly opposed to FCC PR 92-235.

Reduction to 3 Hz deviation will result in loss of range by 40 per cent (2/5) plus problems getting sufficient audio output power, especially in high noise areas. Reduced deviation will cause CTCSS and pager decoder failure. So if we are forced to reduce modulation from 5 Hz to 3 Hz, we will in fact have a very unreliable alerting system.

Since we are all volunteers we could have longer than normal response time. We have calls for EMS that are over 30 to 35 miles, also we live in a mountainous area and the radios we have now are sometimes at their limit.

While we realize the problems that high density population areas on both the east and west coast must have, we are in an area of great distances between towns and small population. We need the best possible communication system -- we believe that we now have such a system.

With budget constraints and a falling economy, the cost of new systems would be disastrous to small communities. Mills would have to spend approximately \$8,000. on mobiles for the fire department; \$4,000. for the police department; \$8,000. for other city equipment; \$4,000. for small base and control stations.

We work closely with other State, Federal and Local Agencies and there is no interoperability between new and old systems, or between the new part 88 VHF 5 kHz equipment and Federal 6.25 kHz equipment. Unless everyone changes at the same time we are all out of luck.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan L. Sword, Secretary
Mills Volunteer Fire Department
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cc: Robert M. Gurss
John Greens

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